

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



1711
Established 1899.

Trade



Mark

Growth of the Business for 20 Years.

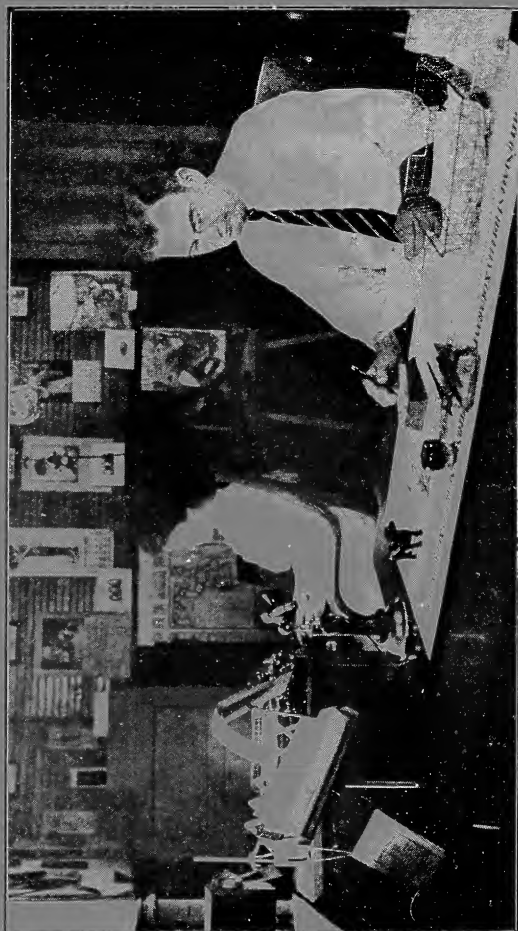
A. D.		A. D.	
1899	35 Acres	1909	965 Acres
1900	160 Acres	1910	1045 Acres
1901	220 Acres	1911	1570 Acres
1902	275 Acres	1912	1460 Acres
1903	290 Acres	1913	1480 Acres
1904	355 Acres	1914	1600 Acres
1905	360 Acres	1915	1600 Acres
1906	460 Acres	1916	1740 Acres
1907	525 Acres	1917	2300 Acres
1908	600 Acres	1918	3570 Acres

1919 - - 2,160 Acres

D. H. GILBERT

SEED GROWER

MONTICELLO, FLORIDA



View of Main Office

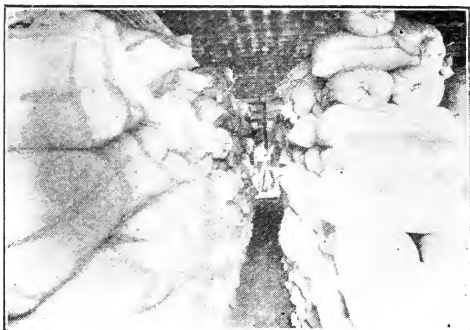


D. H. GILBERT

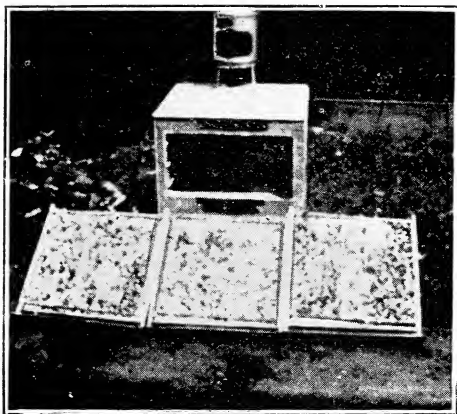
**Who Has the Distinction of Being the Only
Man in America Who Devotes His
Whole Time to the Exclusive Grow-
ing of Watermelons,**



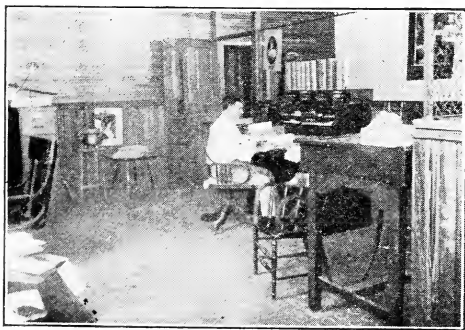
**View Showing Seed Stored on Top Floor
of Warehouse as Delivered From
Farms.**



**View Showing Seed Recleaned, Weighed
and Tested For Germination, Ready
For Shipment.**



Testing Seed For Germination.



Filing Crop Inspection Reports.

THE object of this booklet is to give a correct description of the different varieties of watermelon, for the benefit of dealers in the seed. It is surprising to know that so few seed dealers are familiar with the types of the different varieties; many of the varieties listed in the general catalogs are synonym.

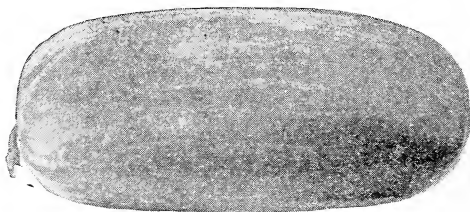
I have mentioned nearly all the distinct sorts of merit, and have given a condensed description. In giving a description of the different varieties it is what I have learned from years of experience and close observation as a grower. I have also watched with interest the development of new sorts, and am pleased to say that a number of sorts introduced in recent years have good qualities.

Index page 52, all distinct varieties listed in bold-faced type, and their allies named, really a number of the varieties mentioned could be left off and the list remain satisfactory, but it has been the custom for a number of years for the different dealers to list the sorts by the names given.

CULTURE

These suggestions are directed to the Southern states, other (Northern and Western) states will be governed by conditions peculiar to their particular section.

Select sandy loam soil (which is preferable) at the proper season (which is as early as season will permit), prepare the land by breaking flush, using judgment as to the depth to plow. If porous sandy soil plow as shallow as can, and do the work well; if loam with clay subsoil plow deep, and if the land is not unusually rough, do not harrow, leaving it rough in reason for the vines to cling in case of wind storms. Where land is level and can be cultivated two ways, check in rows 10x10 feet, merely marking one way, but good deep furrow the other way, that the fertilizer will be well covered. For porous sandy soil use 500 to 800 pounds fertilizer per acre, analyzing about 10 per cent phosphoric acid, 2 per cent potash, 6 per cent ammonia, and for loam with clay subsoil, the same amount, but analyzing about 8 per cent phosphoric acid, 2 per cent potash, 5 per cent ammonia, preferably made from nitrate of soda, cotton seed meal, dried blood, superphosphate, muriate and sulphate of potash. Better results to use two applications, applying about two-thirds the amount before planting, and balance as the vines begin to run. On land that will not permit cultivating two ways, suggest to lay off rows 12 feet apart, use a distributor and put the fertilizer all along, and plant the seed 8 feet apart in drill, and after the plants are strong, thin to one in each hill, cultivate shallow and fast. There is no particular method of cultivation that is much the best, simply keep the weeds and grass from appearing by constantly stirring the soil, and it is not well to turn the vines, not that it will greatly injury the plant, but sure to delay setting of fruit.



Tom Watson

ONE of the best melons either for market or home use; very prolific, attains a larger size than any of the long green melons, frequently growing 50 or 60 pounds in weight; no tipped ends or necks to rot; one of the best shippers. The rind is thin but tough, flesh deep red; tender, firm and sweet; produces melons 18 to 24 inches long by 10 to 12 inches in diameter; seeds light brown, smeared with darker brown; time for ripening 90 days.

Eighth melons produce a pound of seed.



Gilbert's Irish Grey

A DISTINCT and very valuable melon, wonderfully productive, will produce more good melons under the same conditions than any other variety; long, thick, uniform; color of rind, yellowish grey interwoven with thread-like veins, smooth marble-like surface, almost as hard as the Citron, flesh sparkling, bright red, sweet and entirely free from hard centers or stringiness, yet the flesh is very firm and compact, will not break when sliced, one of the best shippers; average size 30 pounds; time for ripening 85 days, seeds white. Eleven melons produce a pound of seed.



Gilbert's Success

THIS melon is a market sort and will withstand shipping equal to or better than any other sort; medium early, very productive and of uniformly large size. Dark mottled green rind, very attractive appearance, flesh bright red, firm and sweet. Melons of this variety very often grow 75 to 80 pounds in weight. Seeds black, time for ripening 90 days, average weight 35 to 40 pounds.

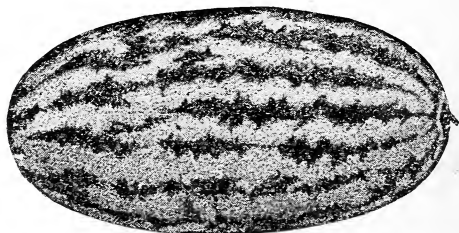
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Kleckley Sweet

THIS is a very popular watermelon, no doubt it is more universally grown than any other sort. Dark green skin, thin rind; flesh bright scarlet, solid, very sweet and crisp; not a good shipper for long distance. The fruits are oblong and uniform in size; seeds cream with an occasional seed smeared with brown; time for ripening 85 days; average weight 25 pounds.

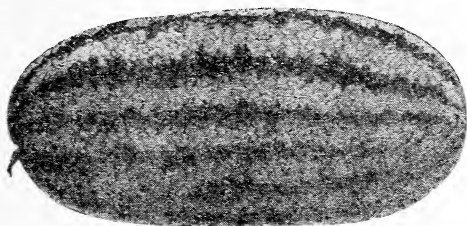
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Alabama Sweet

THE rind is dark green, marked with deeper green mottled stripes, medium thin and very tough, making the melon a first class shipper. The flesh is bright red, fine grained, sweet, firm and entirely stringless. Seeds white, slightly smeared with brown. Time for ripening 85 days, average weight 30 pounds.

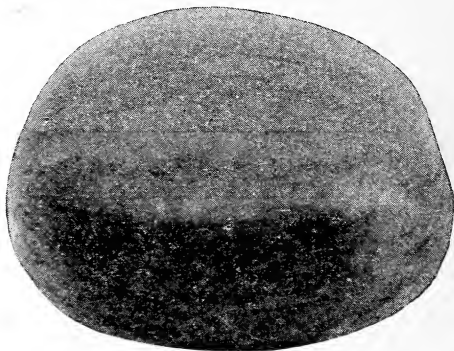
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



McIvers Wond. Sugar

THIS is a very hardy grower; leaves on the vines differ in shape from most other sorts, exceedingly productive. Elongated rind dark green, striped with broad bands of light green; flesh bright red, firm and of extra quality. Seeds white, with an occasional seed slightly brown tipped; good shipper; time for ripening 100 days; average weight 30 pounds.

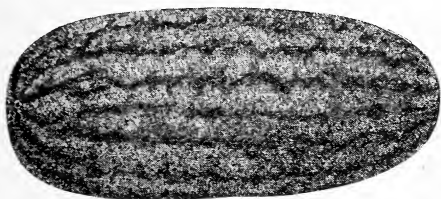
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Triumph

THIS melon is a market sort and one of the best shippers; very productive, and of uniformly large size. The rind dark green, indistinctly striped with a lighter shade. Seeds black; time for ripening 90 days; average weight 35 pounds.

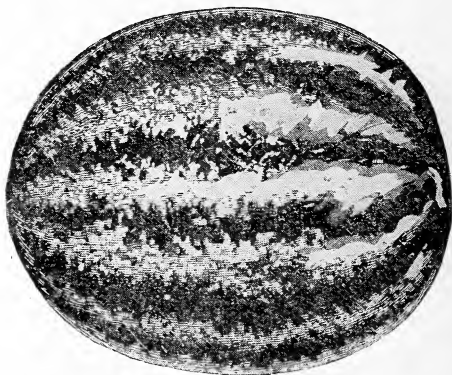
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Florida Favorite

AN oblong melon with dark green skin faintly striped with a lighter green; deep red flesh of excellent flavor, one of the best table sort, not a good shipper. Seeds white; time for ripening 80 days; average weight 20 pounds.

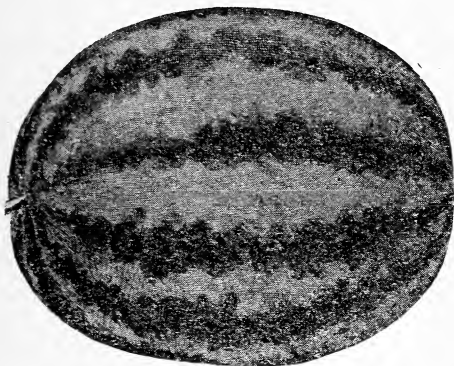
Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Kolb Gem

COLOR dark green, broad, bright stripes, nearly round, rind thick. One of the best shippers, flesh medium red and very firm. Seeds black; time for ripening 90 days; average weight 25 pounds.

Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Duke Jones

RIND dark green, slightly striped with lighter green, almost round in shape; flesh bright red; not a long distance shipper; seeds white with black tips and is unusually productive. Time for ripening 85 days; average weight 25 pounds.

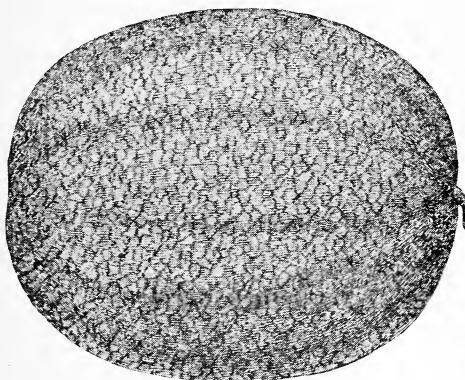
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Chilian

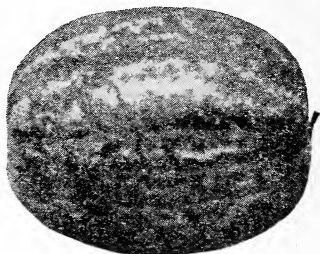
THIS IS a very attractive melon, being nearly round in form, with a dark green rind with black stripes. The flesh is of the very deepest red, solid and sweet. The rind is about one-quarter of an inch thick but very strong. One of the best shippers. Seeds white; average weight 20 pounds; time for ripening 85 days.

Nine melons produce a pound of seed.



Fordhook Early

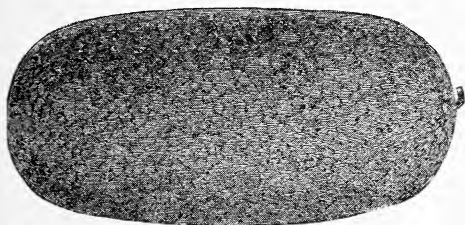
THE fruits are of good size, rather short and blocky in form, skin dark mottled green, flesh bright red, crisp and of splendid quality. Rind thin; not a good shipper; seeds white; time for ripening 85 days. Melons required to produce a pound of seed, seven. Average weight 25 pounds.



Imp. Kolb Gem

IN general shape, size and appearance it is similar to the old-fashioned Kolb Gem, but is distinctively darker; it has a very firm, hard rind, and is a good shipper; flesh deep red, extending near the rind; of good flavor. Seeds black. Time for ripening 90 days; average weight 30 pounds.

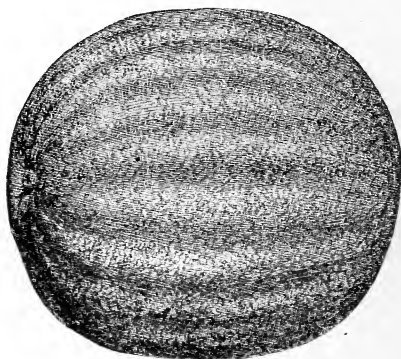
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Gray Monarch

RIND mottled gray, shape long, flesh crimson and of excellent flavor. Not a good shipper; rind thin and brittle. Seeds white; time of ripening 80 days; average weight 25 pounds.

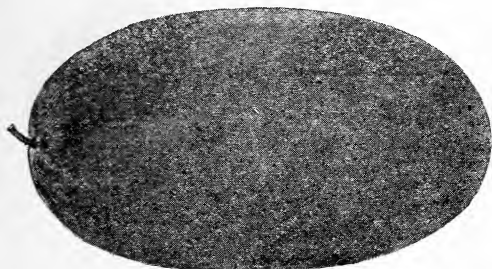
Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Jumbo

EXTRA large, very productive and of very fine flavor; grows uniformly in size; rind dark green with an indistinct stripe a shade lighter green; flesh bright red and tender; seeds white; time for ripening 90 days; average weight 30 pounds. Good shipper.

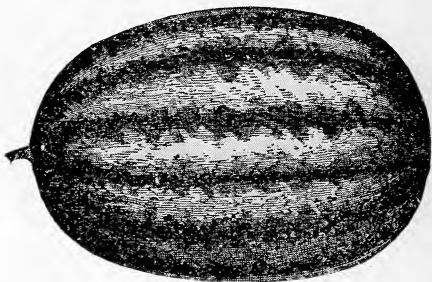
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



The Boss

OBLONG in shape, skin dark green, flesh deep scarlet and of rich flavor. Seeds black; time for ripening 85 days; not a good shipper; average weight 20 pounds.

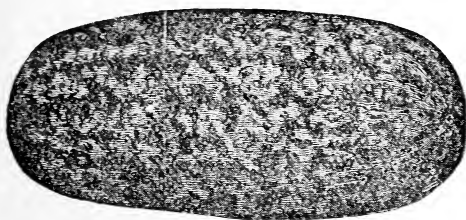
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Cuban Queen

IT is an enormous yielder, oval in shape, skin striped light and dark green, flesh bright red, solid. Seeds black. Time for ripening 90 days. A good shipper. Average weight 30 pounds.

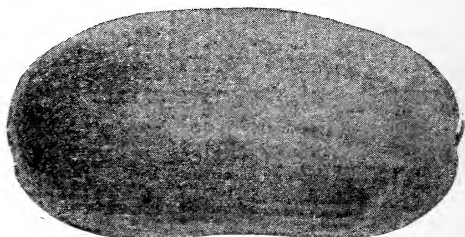
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Phinney's Early

A VERY sure cropper; vines vigorous and fruiting quite heavy. Fruit oblong and striped with two shades of green; rind thin, flesh pink and tender; not a good shipper; seed white with black tips. Time for ripening 85 days; average weight 15 pounds.

Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Ice Cream

ONE of the best early sorts for home garden; not a good shipper. Vines hardy and productive; fruit oval to oblong; bright mottled green; rind thin, flesh light pink; crisp and sweet. Seed white; average weight 20 pounds; time for ripening 90 days.

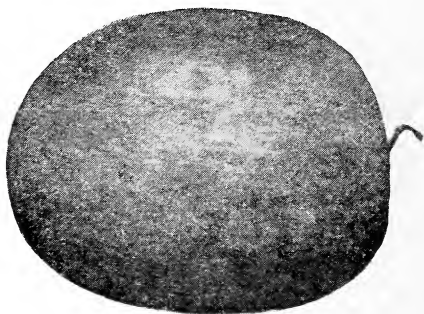
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Georgia Rattlesnake

IS an elongated gray with light green stripes;
an excellent shipper, vines vigorous and pro-
ductive. Flesh red and sweet, seeds white
with black tips. Time for ripening 80 days.
Average weight 25 pounds.

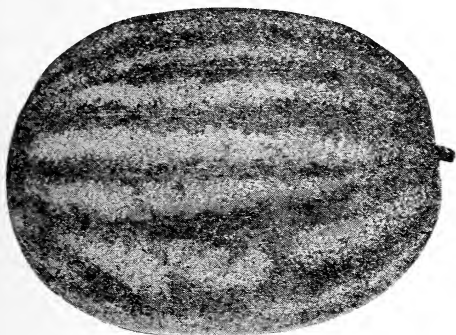
Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Mountain Sweet

DARK green, oval, rind thin; flesh bright scarlet, solid and sweet. Not a good shipper; seeds black; time of ripening 80 days; average size 20 pounds.

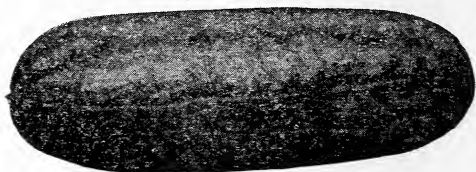
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Harris' Earliest

AN extra early melon of excellent quality. Fruits larger than any other extra early sort; slightly oval with broad bands of mottled stripes light and dark green. Flesh bright red, and very tender, vines very vigorous and productive. Not a good shipper. Seed black. Time for ripening 80 days. Average weight 25 pounds.

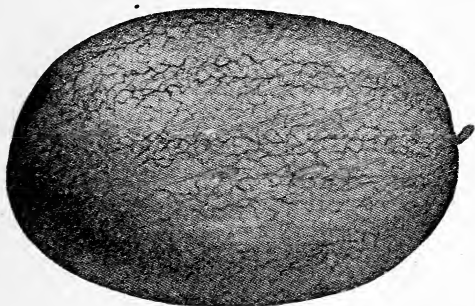
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Halbert's Honey

THIS melon is dark green, slightly ridged and blunt at both ends, the flesh is very sweet and melting, leaves no trace of pulp; bright crimson; not a good shipper. Rind very tender; grows very long in shape; seeds white, small and black tips; time for ripening 85 days. Average size 25 pounds.

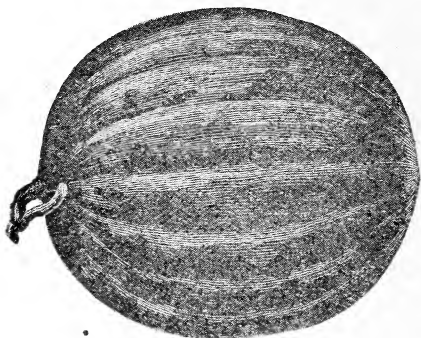
Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Sweetheart

VINES vigorous and very productive, almost round in shape, very heavy and solid; rind thin but firm; color very light green, slightly veined with a darker shade. Flesh bright red and sweet, seed black; time for ripening 90 days; average weight 30 pounds.

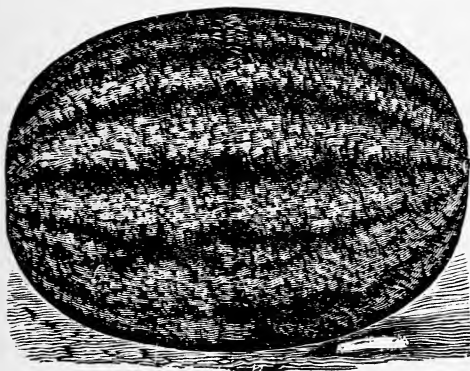
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Dark Icing

FRUITS are oval in form, with green skin, flesh deep pink, very sweet; rind thin and brittle; not a good shipper. Seeds white; time for ripening 85 days. Average weight 25 pounds.

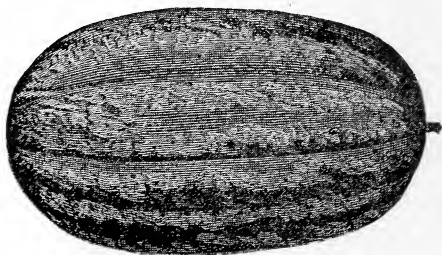
Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Iceberg

A POPULAR market sort and one of the best shippers. Melons uniformly large, thick oval form, rind dark green with fine stripes of lighter shade. Flesh deep pink and very solid and sweet. Ripening near the rind. Copper colored bottom. Seeds black. Average weight 30 pounds; time for ripening 90 days.

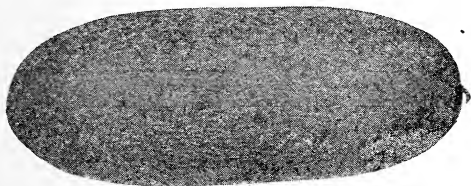
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Dixie

IT has a remarkable thin rind almost impene-
trable, which preserves it for a great length
of time, vines thrifty and strong, very pro-
ductive, the flesh is fine rich scarlet and of
superior quality. Seed black; time for ripen-
ing 85 days; oblong in shape; average weight
25 pounds.

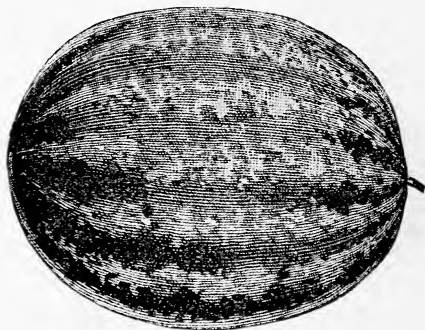
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Angel's Kiss

ONE of the best flavored melons in existence. Flesh of the deepest crimson, sweet and melting. Vines robust and strong-growing and very prolific. Oblong in shape; seeds white; time for ripening 80 days. Average weight 25 pounds. Color of rind gray.

Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Cole's Early

STRICTLY a home market melon almost round in shape, rind light green, striped with broad bands of dark green. Vines very vigorous and productive; flesh bright red, crisp and delicate texture; seeds small, black. Time for ripening 80 days; average weight 20 pounds.

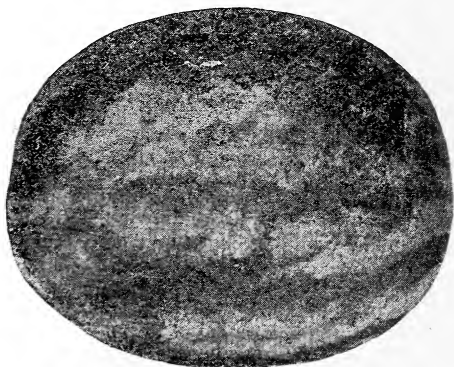
Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Augusta Rattlesnake

THIS melon resembles very closely the old Georgia Rattlesnake. The color of the rind is identical, being a little difference in the shape, growing not quite so long but somewhat thicker. Flesh solid, red and sweet. Seeds white, with black tips; time for ripening 90 days; average weight 30 pounds.

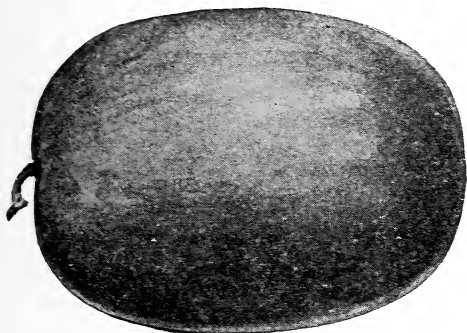
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Golden Honey

A GOLDEN flesh melon glistening amber shade of yellow, very tender and delicious flavor, round in form, rind light green with mottled stripes, entirely free from hard centers or stringy sections. The rind is thick, but not a good shipper. Seeds white, with black tips. Average weight 20 pounds. Time for ripening 90 days.

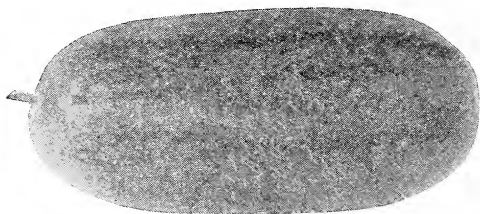
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Black Diamond

A RICH dark green color, uniform shape, very productive, flesh bright red and good flavor, almost round; seeds black; time for ripening 90 days; average weight 30 pounds.

Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Bradford

VINES very vigorous and productive. Rind dark green with darker stripes. Is a long melon, grows uniform in size; flesh red, tender and sweet; an excellent shipping sort. Seeds white; time for ripening 85 days; average weight 25 pounds.

Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



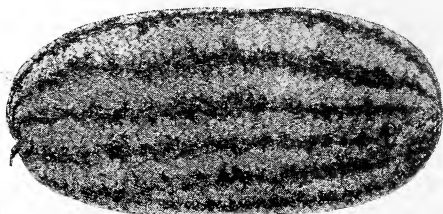
Excel

EXCEL produces melons eighteen to twenty-two inches long by twelve to sixteen inches in diameter, and weighing from forty to sixty pounds; the dark green rind, indistinctly striped with a shade lighter green, is tough and easily withstands far distant shipment. The deep red flesh is crisp, melting and of finest flavor, entirely free from core or hard centers. Heart large and very firm with unusually small seed cavity.

Special Notice: In perfecting the type of this melon, there was intentionally bred into it two colors of seed (white with black tips and dark seed). While one melon will not have two colors of seed, yet each of the two colors produces melons exactly alike in every respect.

Seeds black and white; time for ripening 90 days.

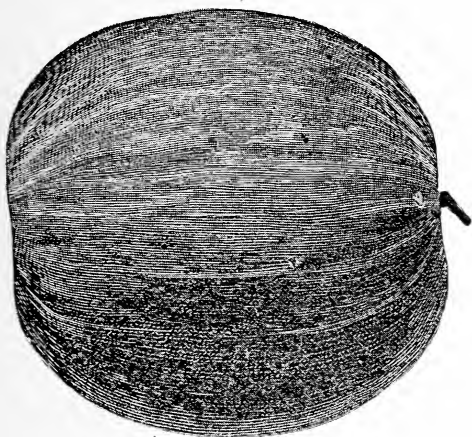
Nine melons produce a pound of seed.



Mammoth Ironclad

FRUITS long and thick, vines vigorous and productive, skin dark green with lighter stripes, rind thin but exceptionally tough; flesh bright red, solid and crisp; seeds white, with an occasional seed smeared with brown. Time for ripening 90 days; average weight 30 pounds.

Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Shaker Blue

THE vines are of a vigorous growth and heavy producers, the melons are nearly round in form, the skin is dark green, slightly striped with narrow bands of a lighter green but when full ripe the melons are solid dark green, the flesh is red and firm, a good shipper. Average weight 30 pounds. Time for ripening 90 days. Seeds white, black tipped.

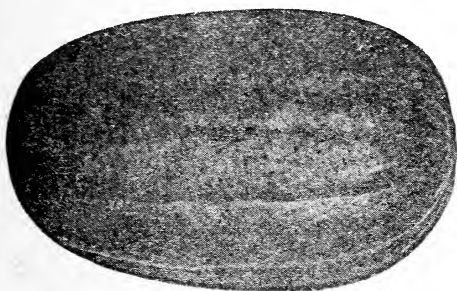
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



Black Boulder

A VERY fine shipping melon; rind solid; dark blueish green; flesh bright red, solid and sweet; seeds black; time for ripening 90 days.

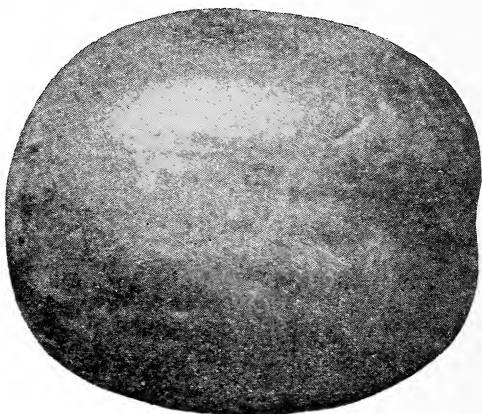
Six melons produce a pound of seed.



Klondyke

THIS is a very popular melon in some sections, being of the very best quality, small dark colored seed; rind dark green, oblong to long, flesh deep scarlet; time for ripening 90 days; average size 15 pounds.

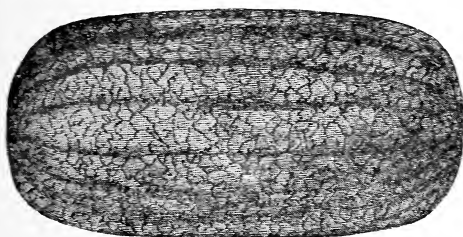
Twelve melons produce a pound of seed.



Angeleno

BEAUTIFUL dark green rind, with a tinge of gold showing through the green. Sparkling red flesh almost to the rind and excellent flavor; good shipper; average size 25 pounds; seed white and easy to split in hot sun; time for ripening 85 days.

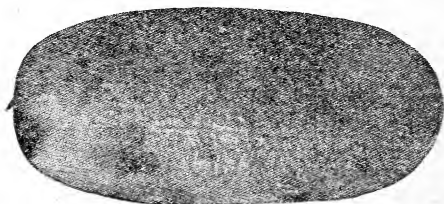
Ten melons produce a pound of seed.



Sugar Loaf

A LONG green-gray melon, with crisp red flesh, thin rind; grows to large size; splendid quality and good cropper. Time for ripening 90 days; average size 30 pounds.

Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Jackson

ONE of the best melons for home use, rind thin, flesh rich scarlet and sweet; long, mottled green; average size 20 pounds; time for ripening 85 days.

Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Kentucky Wonder

OBLONG in shape, skin dark green, marbled with a lighter green; flesh scarlet, crisp and sweet. An excellent keeper but not a good shipper; average size 25 pounds; seed reddish brown; time for ripening 90 days.

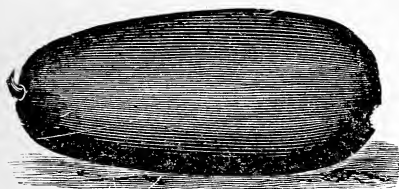
Seven melons produce a pound of seed.



King and Queen (Winter)

THIS melon resembles a round white Citron, but has very fine flavored flesh, tender and sweet; rind light in color, with an imaginary stripe; flesh pink, solid and stringless; average size 10 pounds; time for ripening 100 days.

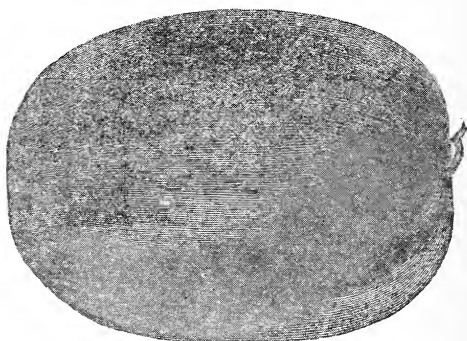
Fourteen melons produce a pound of seed.



Vick's Early

VERY early and rather small, oblong in form, with a very dark green rind; flesh bright pink and very sweet; seeds black; time for ripening 80 days.

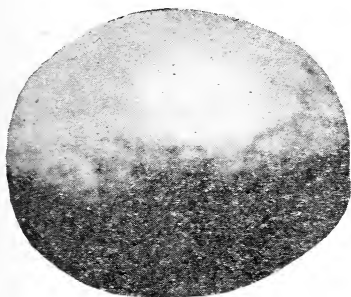
Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Peerless

THIS melon has become a favorite with a great many; flesh beautiful crimson and fine grained, excellent quality, dark mottled green rind, round to oblong; average size 20 pounds; time for ripening 85 days; seed white.

Eight melons produce a pound of seed.



Hungarian Honey

A SMALL globe-shaped melon, color mottled green and veined with a darker shade; flesh bright red, ripening close to the rind, sweet and tender; seeds small brown; time for ripening 90 days. Fourteen melons produce a pound of seed.

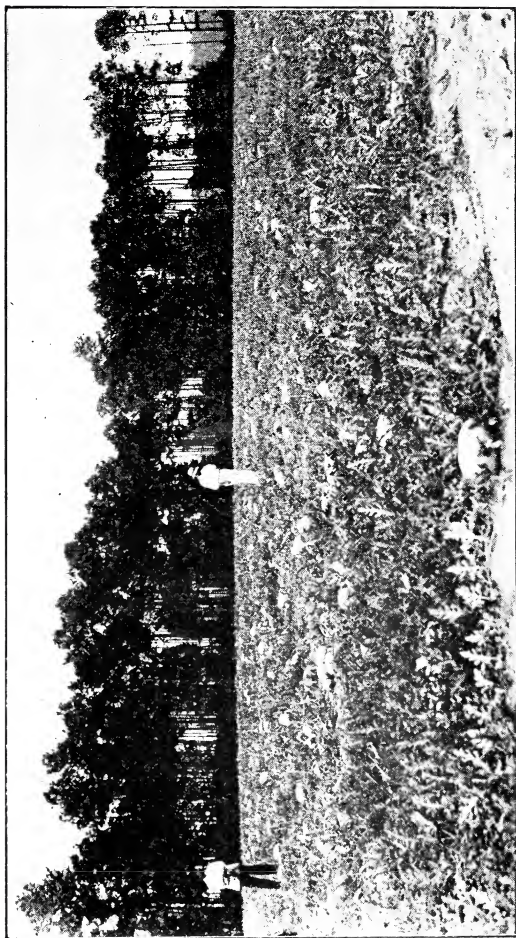
Index to Varieties

Variety Names in Bold-Faced Type; Synonyms in Regular Type

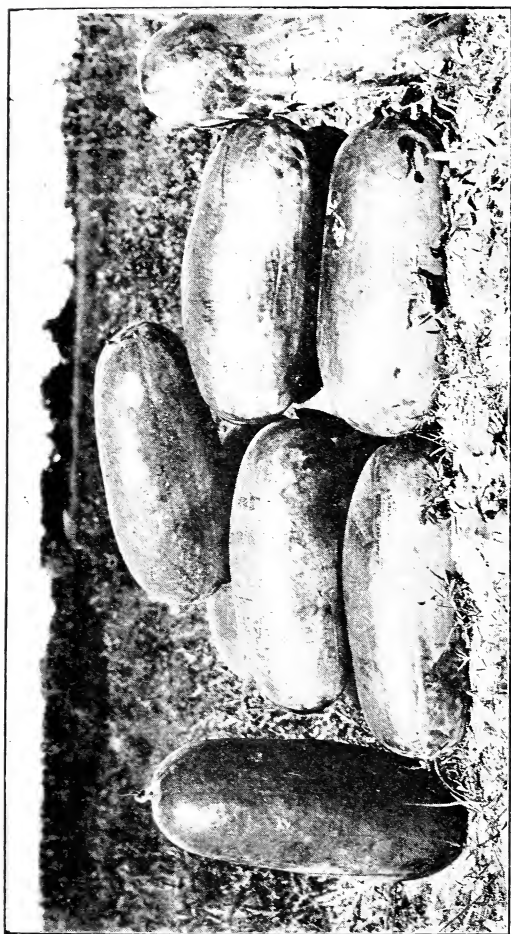
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- 10 **Alabama Sweet or Western Bradford**
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- 12 **Triumph or Blue Gem, Glossier and Holmes**
- 13 **Florida Favorite or Thomas and Pierson**
- 14 **Kolb's Gem or Champion**
- 15 **Duke Jones or The Jones and Pride of Georgia**
- 16 **Chilian (Also Red and Black Seed)**
- 17 **Fordhook Early**
- 18 **Improved Kolb Gem (Almost same as Iceberg)**
- 19 **Gray Monarch or Long Light Icing**
- 20 **Jumbo or Phillip Jones**
- 21 **The Boss**
- 22 **Cuban Queen**
- 23 **Phinney's Early**
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- 25 Georgia Rattlesnake
- 26 Mountain Sweet
- 27 Harris' Earliest (Almost same as Cole's
Early)
- 28 Halbert Honey
- 29 Sweetheart
- 30 Dark Icing or Ice Rind
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- 37 Black Diamond
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- 39 Gilbert's Excel
- 40 Mammoth Ironclad
- 41 Shaker Blue or White Seed Triumph
- 42 Black Boulder
- 43 Klondyke
- 44 Angeleno (Also Black Seed)
- 45 Sugar Loaf
- 46 Jackson
- 47 Kentucky Wonder
- 48 King and Queen or Winter
- 49 Vick's Early
- 50 Peerless
- 51 Hungarian Honey



Field of Irish Grey Melons.



A Collection of Melons for Stock Seed. Tom Watson.

To My Dear Friends:

I am a farmer's son and followed the plow. I grew up among farmers and gardeners, and very early learned that high-grade selected seeds were absolutely necessary for best success.

I have followed seed growing for twenty years. My business shows that my seeds and efforts have both been a success, and are appreciated by those who know what good seeds are. It is my privilege to serve many firms and individuals; I have tried to make of them not only customers, but friends; to go a little further than the formal relations of life, and to create a feeling of personal good will. For your preference I have the liveliest feeling of appreciation, and I beg you to accept this as a personal expression of my gratitude, and I beg once more to convey to you my thanks, my appreciation, and an expression of my heartiest good will, and hopes for the future.

Sincerely,

D. H. GILBERT



Field of Gilbert Irish Grey Melons at Time of Harvesting Seed.

An Industry Built on a Solid Foundation



Fair Prices

Extensive Variety

Careful Selection

Prompt Attention

Uniform Treatment

Absolute Reliability